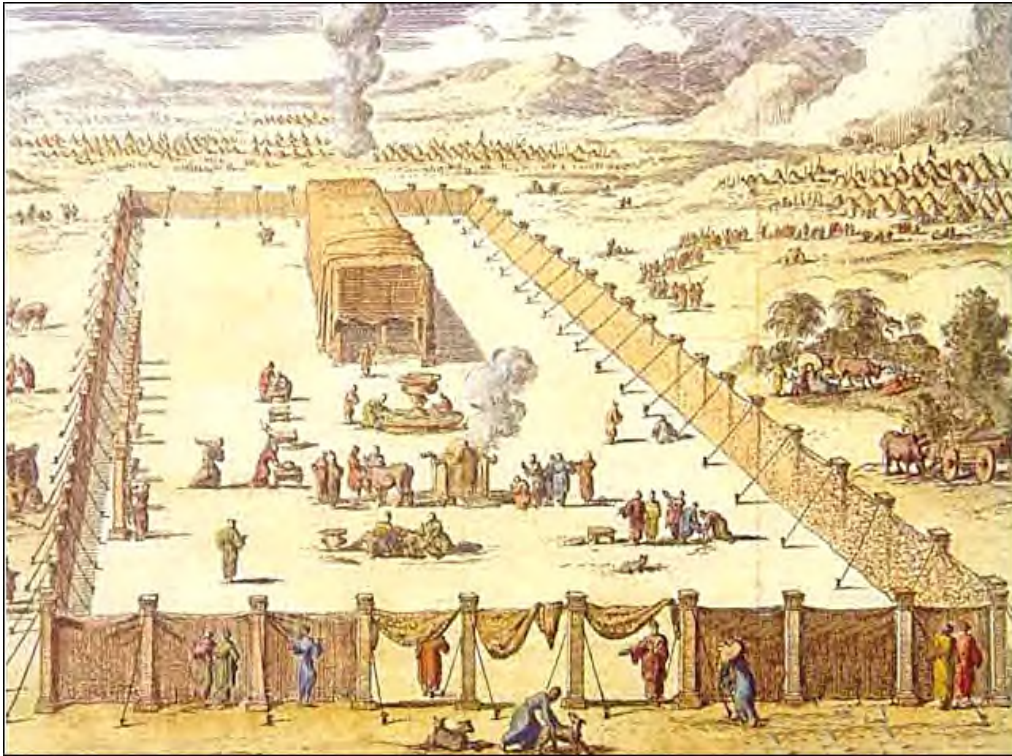


The Old Hatred

Why Satan wants the World to Loathe the Jews

by Jeremy James



A Semite is a descendant of Shem, a son of Noah. Both Arabs and Jews are Semites, so the term *Antisemitism* is not a very satisfactory way of describing a marked dislike of Jews or Judaism. However, as it is current in the English language, we will continue to use it.

If we are to understand the nature of Antisemitism, we have to go all the way back to the first Antisemite – Satan.

When the Enemy realized that the LORD was building a nation to enable His redemptive plan for mankind to be carried out, he set about trying to destroy it. His first big target was Jacob. While removing his family in secret from Paran, the home base of Laban, Jacob was obliged to confront two great threats to his survival. Each could have caused his death and very possibly the death or enslavement of his wives and children.

The first was Laban who, in his rage and jealousy, would have killed Jacob had the LORD not come to him in a dream and warned him not to harm Jacob.

The second threat came from his estranged brother, Esau, who had long nursed an intense grievance against Jacob. Despite giving extremely generous herds of domestic animals to appease his brother, and offering them in separate acts of atonement, Jacob could not be sure that Esau – who was coming down on him with a massive force of 400 men – would not wipe out his entire family. There is no doubt, given the size of his entourage, that Esau intended to exact revenge on Jacob, but the series of generous gifts seemed to blunt his anger and cause him to reconsider. Though we are not told whether any other factor affected his attitude, he too may have received a warning of some kind in a dream.

We can see how both of these threats came to the fore in such a dramatic way just as Jacob was about to enter the Promised Land. Satan could see the connection between the nation that the LORD was building through Jacob (Israel) and the parcel of land which He had promised to give Abraham and his descendants – via Isaac and Jacob – in perpetuity. His hatred of God found full expression through his hatred of Jacob and his descendants, the instruments that God was using to break his hold over mankind.

Massacre at Shechem

Jacob had barely settled into the land of Canaan (at Shechem in Shechem) when Satan provoked another divisive episode. One of his daughters very foolishly fraternized with the locals without a chaperone and was sexually abused. Her abuser was smitten with her and asked Jacob for her hand in marriage. Her brothers, Simeon and Levi, were outraged by the crime committed by the locals and hatched a deadly scheme to avenge their family's honor. It entailed the slaughter of all the males in the village.



Massacre of the Shechemites, French, 15th century

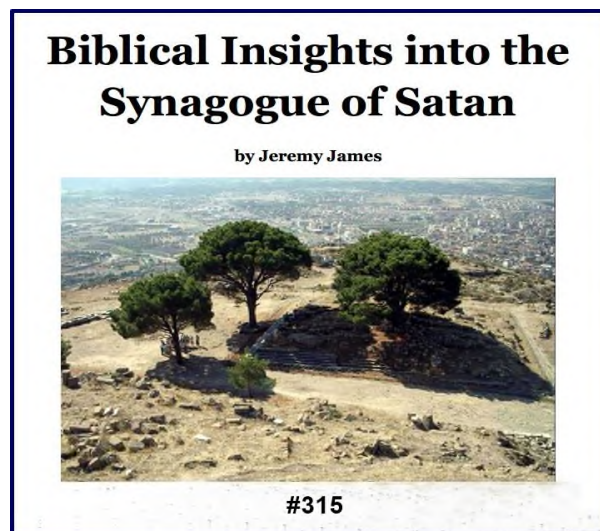
Jacob was horrified by what they did:

“And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, Ye have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites: and I being few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me, and slay me; and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.” (Genesis 34:30)

Their savage behavior could easily have resulted in the destruction of Jacob and his family. As he said, they made him “stink” before the Canaanites. We can clearly see the hand of Satan in all of this.

Under normal circumstances, he would indeed have been annihilated, along with his entire family. The male inhabitants in the region would have come together and cut them to ribbons. But, incredibly, that is not what happened. Satan’s plan came to naught when the LORD put a cordon of protection around them:

**“...the terror of God was upon the cities that were round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob.”
(Genesis 35:5)**



In an earlier paper (#315) – ***Biblical Insights into the Synagogue of Satan*** – we discussed the occult clique within Judaism which has rejected the LORD God of the Torah and given itself over to the cause of Satan. We would strongly urge our readers to review that paper since it explains many of the apparent contradictions that Gentiles perceive within Judaism.

As sworn servants of the Enemy, the Synagogue of Satan has sought to exercise complete control over the Jewish people. It has used Talmudic dogma to usurp the Torah, it has promoted Kabbalah and Jewish mysticism, and it has continually provoked enmity between Jews and Gentiles in order to convince the Jewish people that the leaders of the Synagogue of Satan are their best protection against Gentile antagonism and persecution. Many within the Rabbinical caste – but certainly not all – are aligned with the Synagogue of Satan, if not fully committed participants.

The Luciferian Network

The enemies of Judaism are both outside and inside the Jewish religion. The Synagogue of Satan has a parallel “organization” in the Gentile world, a complex network of Luciferian families which have worked together for generations to exploit and oppress Christians and the Gentile nations, to infiltrate and pervert Christianity, and to work steadily, under a code of strict secrecy, to prepare a path for the Antichrist. Perhaps the best known name for this secretive occult network is the Illuminati, but they are known by other names, such as the Brotherhood of Darkness, the Order of the Snake, and the Black Nobility.

The two groups, the Synagogue of Satan and the Illuminati, overlap in Freemasonry. The Masonic network extends across the Islamic world and thereby ensures that all of the main players in the Middle East report directly to the same absolute authority, namely Satan himself.

When we look at what Levi and Simeon did in Shechem, which risked the destruction of their entire family – the nascent nation of Israel – we can appreciate how much harm Satan can do if given a chance. The threat to Israel from those within Judaism is ever-present. For example, Judea was crushed in 70 AD by the might of Rome because its leaders insisted on conducting a campaign that could only end in tragedy. This suicidal course was pursued by the Jewish ruling caste without any regard to the risk it posed to the very existence of Israel. The same ruling caste repeated this suicidal “error” in 132 AD when it supported the Bar Kokhba revolt, provoking Rome to eradicate a large proportion of the Jewish population and to expel the rest.



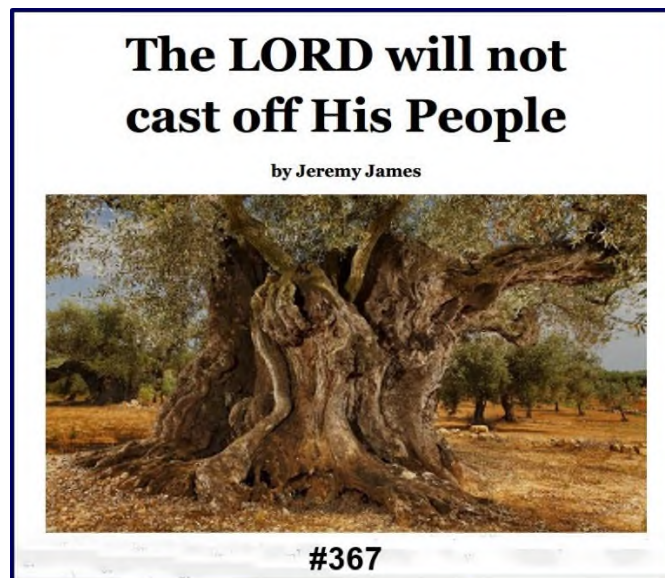
Simon Bar Kokhba coin

It is incredible to think that the Bar Kokhba revolt, with its horrific consequences for the Jewish people, was given a huge impetus when the leading Rabbi of the day, Rabbi Akiva ben Joseph, declared the leader of the revolt, Simon bar Kokhba, to be the Messiah. Rabbi Akiva is actually described in the Talmud as *Rosh la-Hakhamim*, ‘Chief of the Sages’. When one’s spiritual leaders abandon the Torah and seek instead to establish their own righteousness via the Talmud and other writings, the destruction of those they lead is assured:

“For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.” (Isaiah 9:16)

Their condition has not changed in two thousand years. They are still controlled by political and spiritual leaders who have turned their backs on the LORD and listen instead to the promptings of the Enemy. They believe his lies and do his bidding. We should not be surprised, therefore, that Netanyahu and his cronies are effectively inciting the whole world to hate Israel and the Jewish people. The slaughter of thousands of innocent civilians in Gaza is certain to harm the moral foundation of the Israeli cause and provoke even greater radicalism across the Islamic world.

Why would they do this? To advance the goals of the New World Order. Satan wants his “son”, the Antichrist, to rule the world from Jerusalem, to secure the Temple Mount for himself, and to annihilate the Jews. As we have pointed out many times in previous papers, Jesus stated that he will return to earth only when his people – the righteous remnant within Judaism – call on him in their hour of need. (Please see our recent paper #367 for a more detailed discussion of this question.)



Satan wants to make sure they never get to the point where, as a nation, they call upon their Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth, in a spirit of true repentance.

The Nazi precedent

We saw this strategy at work on a lesser scale during the Nazi era in Germany. The general population was conditioned to see the Jews – all Jews, not just the banking elite – as parasites that had to be either expelled or exterminated. The Illuminati and the Synagogue of Satan worked ingeniously toward this end. As a result, mass murder and relentless persecution became an acceptable ‘solution’ in the eyes of the German people.

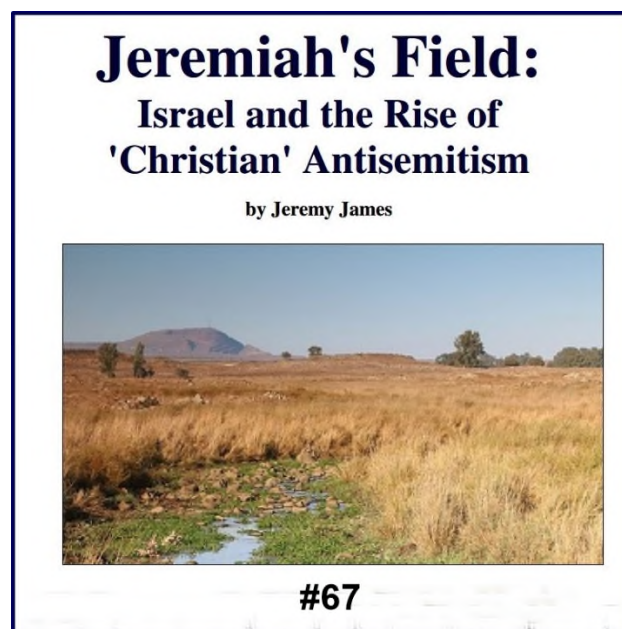
The Enemy now wants to implement the same strategy on a worldwide scale, inciting all countries to question the continued existence of Israel as a nation state. They are engineering a situation where Antisemitism is the norm and anyone who supports Israel or the Jews is deemed to be an outsider, a bigot who clings to an outdated Biblical perspective.

What Netanyahu and his cronies have done in Gaza has made the name of “Israel” *stink* before the nations, just as Levi and Simeon made it *stink* before the Canaanites.

There is no doubt that Satan has been pursuing this strategy in other ways. We already know the animosity created by the predatory use of usury by Jewish banking houses down the centuries. To this we may add the many anti-Christian activities by rebellious apostate Jews (of the Sabbatean-Frankist movement) over the past two centuries. These include the works of Karl Marx and Sigmund Freud, as well as radical feminists like Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem. The infamous Frankfort School of social theory, which specialized in devising ways to undermine the traditional Christian worldview, was staffed almost exclusively by Jews. The anarchic and antinomial character of modern Jewish thought – Frankfort School, Communist, Kabbalist – has had a profound influence on Hollywood, television, and the popular music industry, mocking and displacing Christian values, promoting homosexuality, attacking traditional marriage and the two-parent family unit, glamorizing promiscuity and infidelity, and normalizing gender ‘fluidity’ and abortion.

The corrosive power of modern technology

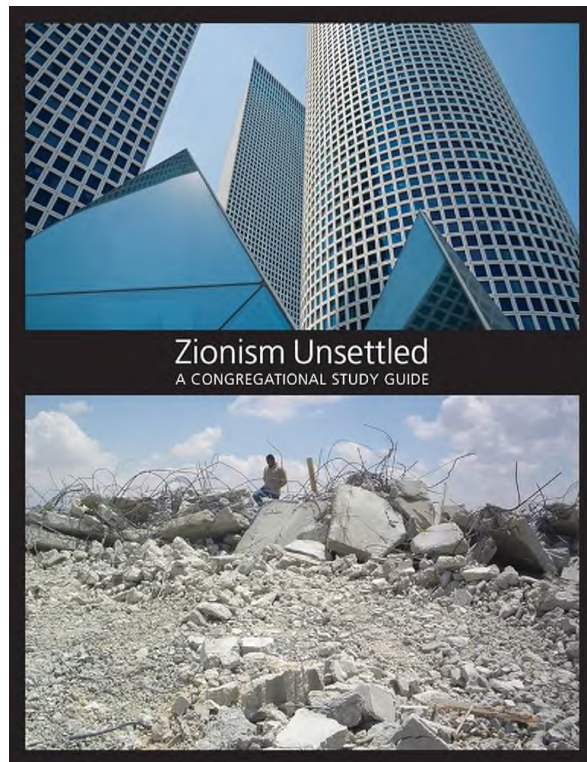
Modern technology and the pervasive role of the media in modern life has made it possible for a relatively small, albeit highly organized, group of conspirators to exercise disproportionate influence over society. Thus, working together with the Illuminati, the Synagogue of Satan – which may comprise less than 5 percent of world Jewry – has succeeded in convincing the Gentile world that *all* Jews are implicated to some degree in their supremacist agenda.



If the war in the Middle East escalates into a major military conflict involving a huge loss of life – including the lives of thousands of Americans and Europeans – it would very likely lead to the collapse of international trade. A shock of that magnitude could bring down the international financial system – and Israel would take the blame.

Just as the German people were conditioned by the Nazis to blame the Jews for all their woes, the Gentile world is being conditioned to blame the Jews for calamities which the Illuminati and the Synagogue of Satan have been planning for decades.

This Antisemitic propaganda, which directs the animus of humanity against the Jews as an ethnic group, is being reinforced by a great variety of lies. In 2015 we published a paper – ***Jeremiah's Field: Israel and the Rise of 'Christian' Antisemitism*** (#67) – which included a critique of a pro-Palestinian booklet published by the Presbyterian Church USA – ***Zionism Unsettled: A Congregational Study Guide***:



This troubling document had the merit of setting out in one place a great many of the falsehoods which the enemies of Israel are using to discredit her legitimacy. Rather than address each of these afresh, we reproduce our critique in Part II of this paper (with a few editorial changes).

The adversarial and emotive tone of the document may be seen from its use throughout of abrasive, condemnatory language when describing Israel and the Jews who live there. This alone tells us that there is something seriously wrong with its supposedly 'Christian' perspective – see the sample list [overleaf](#).

It beggars belief that the largest Presbyterian denomination in North America should support such a document. Do sincere, Bible-believing Christians within the Presbyterian community realize what is being done in their name? This venomous polemic not only libels the Jewish people but, in doing so, presents a sickening caricature of Christianity.

There are two lies which we believe need to be exposed before we advance to Part II. These are (i) the allegation that an extensive Arab community was established for centuries in the Promised Land before the Jews began to return in the 1880s and (ii) the allegation that the Jews in Israel today are impostors, consisting mainly of Gentiles who converted to Judaism long after the real Jews, familial descendants of Jacob, were expelled from the Promised Land.

Examples of the disparaging terminology used throughout the Presbyterian document, <i>Zionism Unsettled</i>	
“tribal xenophobia” “ethnic cleansing” “military occupation” “toxic relationship” “land confiscation” “the pathology inherent in Zionism” “psychological scarring” “cycle of victimization” “guilt-neutralizing mechanisms” “narrative of denial” “morally hazardous claims” “moral calculus” “moral myopia” “ethical exceptionalism” “rogue behavior” “occupied territories” “expropriated land” “eternal victimhood” “moral degeneration” “Judaization” “de-Arabization” “suppressing dissenting perspectives” “hawkish monitoring groups” “Holocaust theology” “ethnocracy” “illegal settlements” “racist education system” “socialization process”	“Israel is an anachronism” “demonization” “marginalization” “settler colonialism” “cultic practices” “Judean temple-state” “externally-imposed subjugation” “religious imperialism” “simplistic sophistry” “perfectly perverse” “maximalist agenda” “dispossession” “terroristic nationalism” “retrogressive primitive tribalism” “idolatrous political nationalism” “oppression and exploitation” “Constantinian hegemony” “emotional blackmail” “fanatic, illiberal discourse” “racism and intolerance” “the imperialism of righteousness” “systematic violation of International law” “pauperization of the Palestinian people” “core crimes” “cultural massacre” “cultural genocide” “immense confidence trick” “confiscation of land”

Since an increasing number of Westerners believe one or both of these allegations, we need to examine each of them in detail.

Why the Promised Land was substantially uninhabited

It is often assumed that the Promised Land was continuously settled for centuries by a substantial population of Arabs, just like the surrounding regions (Syria, Lebanon and Jordan). However this was not the case. The land was significantly under-populated during the Ottoman period. Having been neglected for so long, the soil had deteriorated to the point where it was of little agrarian value. Visitors to the Holy Land in the 19th century, such as Mark Twain and Karl Marx, were greatly surprised by the emptiness of the terrain, the barrenness of the soil, and the tiny size of the population. The indigenous people, mostly Arabs, Jews and Greek Orthodox, were confined in the main to a few towns, where living conditions were primitive. The Ottomans had not invested in the country and there was no infrastructure to speak of.



Panoramic view of Jericho, 1850

Thus the Jews had continuously maintained an unbroken presence in the Promised Land since the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD. The numbers were not large, but a remnant always remained. Whether the land was controlled by the eastern Roman empire, the Ummayyad, Abbasid or Fatimid empires, the Christian Crusaders (who butchered many Jews), or the Ottoman Turks, the Jews continued to maintain a sufficient presence in the land to be recognized by these conquerors as an indigenous people.

When the Romans carried out mass expulsions in 135 AD a small number of Jews, mostly the poorest of the poor, were allowed to remain. This massive dispersion, known as the Diaspora, was not reversed to any significant extent until the Jews began to return to their homeland in the mid 19th century when the territory, then known as Palestine, was under Ottoman rule. The literature and culture of the Jews during the entire period of the Diaspora reflected a desire to return to their homeland, but social, economic and military impediments prevented them from doing so.

- two important points

Two important points should be noted in this review. Firstly, while the land of Canaan had, for over 1,500 years, been identified exclusively with the indigenous Jewish population until the first century AD, with its capital in Jerusalem, it had ceased to have a distinct political identity thereafter. Instead it became a small province in a series of extensive empires (Ummayyad, Abbasid, Fatimid and Ottoman). Furthermore, with the expulsion of most of its Jewish population in the Diaspora, the land was neither irrigated nor cultivated in a systematic manner thereafter and eventually deteriorated to the point where it was of little agrarian value. It was used mainly by wandering Bedouin, a very small population of urban dwellers, and as a trading route between Africa and Asia.

Secondly, for the duration of the Ottoman Empire, and long before, geographical areas were distinguished mainly by reference to tribal boundaries, proximity to large towns, or by inclusion in an administrative district for taxation purposes. The empire itself was the only sovereign entity in the Middle East and nation states as such did not exist. Therefore the notion that a distinct group of Arabs, known as ‘Palestinians’, had occupied the territory for centuries is completely false.

- the land lay desolate

These facts should settle the matter, but for many sceptics historical details of this kind are irrelevant. They are uncomfortable with the idea that the land in question, which had formerly been productive, should lie desolate for about 1800 years – between the Diaspora in 135 AD to the late 19th century. If it was desolate, then it was largely abandoned and of interest only to wandering nomads. On what authority can we base such a claim?

Well, we have it on the best authority. God Himself has stated that, while the land is without its Jewish inhabitants, it ceases to be fruitful:

“Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths.” (Leviticus 26:34)

If the Jews are dispersed across the Gentile nations, the Promised Land is unproductive. This is the meaning of the term **“enjoy her sabbaths”**. The land is at rest and doing no work. No crops grow, no trees bear fruit, and nothing of agricultural value can be cultivated.

This had not yet happened at the time the Book of Leviticus was recorded, but we have subsequent confirmations of the LORD’s decree in Zechariah, Ezekiel, and Micah:

“But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.” (Zechariah 7:14)

“And the desolate land shall be tilled, *whereas it lay desolate* in the sight of all that passed by.” (Ezekiel 36:34)

**“After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against *the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste*: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.”
(Ezekiel 38:8)**

“Notwithstanding *the land shall be desolate* because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings.” (Micah 7:13)

The verse from Micah is especially interesting since it gives the reason why the land lay desolate and why it would always lie desolate while it was inhabited primarily by non-believers. Those who were not in a Covenant relationship with the LORD and living in obedience to His Word could not benefit from its increase. The **“fruit of their doings”** were offensive to the LORD and caused the land to persist in its desolate state.

Writing in the 1830s, before the Jews began to return to the Promised Land, Albert Barnes recorded the following in his commentary on Micah 7:13:

“Notwithstanding - (And) the land (that is that spoken of, the land of Judah) shall be desolate not through any arbitrary law or the might of her enemies, but through the sins of the people, because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings. Truly "the fruit of their doings," what they did to please themselves, of their own minds against God. As they sow, so shall they reap. This sounds almost as a riddle and contradiction beforehand; "the walls built up," "the people gathered in," and "the land desolate." Yet it was all fulfilled in the letter as well as in spirit. Jerusalem was restored; the people was gathered, first from the captivity, then to Christ; and yet the land was again desolate through the fruit of their doings who rejected Christ, and is so until this day.” (Barnes Commentary in Micah 7:13)

The Jews who returned to the Promised Land in the late 19th century and thereafter can hardly be regarded as a people obedient to God’s Word, but they satisfied the terms of chapter 37 of the Book of Ezekiel and thus enjoyed a measure of relief from the sabbath restriction.

Why the Jews in Israel today are descendants of Jacob

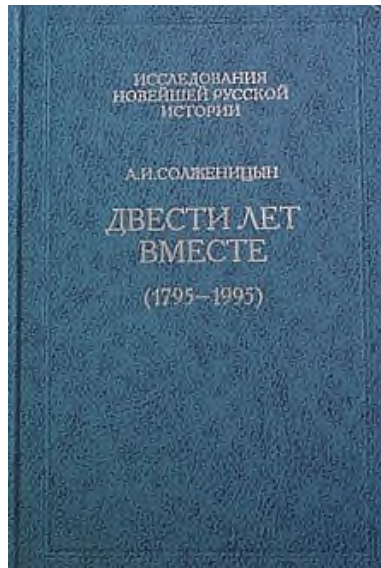
One of the most potent lies in circulation today is that the Jews in Israel are not Jews at all but descendants of Gentiles who converted to Judaism. The historical period most usually cited for this is the 8th century AD when it is alleged that a significant proportion of the population of Khazaria converted to Judaism. The Khazar kingdom lay mainly between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea and extended far into the territory north of that region – see map:



We have marked on the map the region to which the Jews of the Northern Kingdom were relocated by the conquering Assyrian army in 722 BC. As one can see, the regions are contiguous and may even have overlapped. Thus it is not unreasonable to assume that, as their population increased over the next ten centuries, large numbers migrated to the more fertile plains of Khazaria. So, if it did actually transpire that the Khazars converted to Judaism in the 8th century AD, it was very likely because they were already Jewish in the true sense.

Alexandr Solzhenitsyn won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1970 for the remarkable account of his imprisonment in the Soviet Gulag system. He published a lengthy historical study of the Jews in Russia in 2002, with French and German translations appearing in 2003. As a writer held in high esteem for his objectivity and his fidelity to reliable sources, his account of the Khazarian hypothesis is of particular interest. We have given an extract of his analysis in **Appendix A**.

No indigenous records in the Khazar language survive. While accepting that historical sources were inconclusive, Solzhenitsyn tended to the view that the Khazars were descendants of Jews who had relocated from Persia. Furthermore, as *Wikipedia* notes, the scope of the conversion to Judaism within the Khazar Khanate remains uncertain.



We previously addressed the Khazarian question in paper #24 (published in 2012). In it we stated:

Consider the Khazars, for example, and the claim that they converted to Judaism in the 8th century and today comprise a substantial proportion of the Jews living in Israel. It is argued that these were not familial descendants of Jacob and therefore could not have inherited the covenants which the LORD made with the people of Israel.

Based largely on scanty evidence and unproven assumptions, such an argument is very misleading. For example, it ignores the possibility that the majority of Khazars were *already* ethnically Jewish, possibly direct descendants of one or more of the ten northern tribes. It also ignores the fact that, in the course of history, mass conversion to Judaism has been virtually unknown. After all, why would any ethnic group adopt an alien religious identity that would only expose it to endless persecution by both Christians and Muslims alike? It doesn't make sense. Indeed, regardless of the edicts issued by their leaders, why would any tribe or nation submit to adult circumcision and a strict religious code, an elaborate liturgical calendar, disciplined sabbath observance, onerous dietary rules, and a range of social, sexual and marital restrictions? In short, if the Khazars are Jewish, then they were always Jewish.

Despite the propaganda, disinformation, and deception, there is actually a very simple way to establish whether or not the Jews who are in Israel today are the same people to whom Biblical prophecy refers. Just consider the following historical facts, all of which accord fully with what the Bible foretold:

- The Jews are undoubtedly the most oppressed people in history, having endured nearly two thousand years of intense racial contempt and hate-fuelled persecution, and yet they have survived. Experience has shown that, once a nation is displaced, it disintegrates, normally within a few generations, but the Jews have defied this iron law of history to a remarkable degree. This alone is proof that they are a distinct, homogenous race, a nation set apart, and, as the Bible foretold, the recipient throughout history of both divine chastisement and providential care.
- It cannot reasonably be argued that the visceral hatred that the Arabs have for the Jews is a product of mistaken identity. Having lived in their vicinity for nearly four thousand years, they know exactly who they are.

The hand of God is clearly visible in all of this. A nation of impostors would never have survived the vicious persecutions of history... a nation of impostors would never have elicited even a fraction of the hatred to which Israel has been subjected by the Arab world and Islam generally over a very long period.

Be assured, the people in Israel today *are* God's chosen people – the real thing. They are the people to which Biblical prophecy refers, and they are the people whom God will rescue in the End Time.

The Word of God tells us that the Children of Israel will continue to exist as a nation to the end of the age. If the Khazarian hypothesis were true and the 'Jews' living in Israel were impostors, then where is the nation to which End Time prophecy in the Word of God refers? Look around. It doesn't exist – except in the Jewish people. No other ethnic group on earth possesses the defining characteristics of Judaism and professes the line of descent which the Jews claim for themselves.

[Part 2, which follows, is fairly long and is offered primarily for the information of readers who are not entirely convinced by the case made thus far. Other readers may prefer to jump forward to our 'Conclusion' on p.38.]

- PART TWO -

A Critical Analysis of *Zionism Unsettled: A Congregational Study Guide*

The root cause of Antisemitism

The root cause of Antisemitism is Satan's insane hatred of the Jews. He wants all humanity to share in that hatred. As a result, men and women who allow themselves to be infected by this enmity are generally unable to see that their attitude is irrational. They find it much easier to believe a sinister claim or a dark insinuation than to question its basis and test it objectively.

Antisemitism thrives on the ignorance of sincere, well-meaning individuals. Thus we are not imputing improper motives to those who hold such views.

The “old hatred”

Antisemitism, the “old hatred”, began in human terms with Esau’s anger against his brother, Jacob [Esau was also called Edom]:

“Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath forever:”

(Amos 1:11)

“Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the LORD was there: Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them...” (Ezekiel 35:10-11) [The two nations are Israel (the northern kingdom) and Judah.]

We can see here that this old hatred continued across generations and never abated. Much the same was true of Ammon, another nation on the border of Israel:

“Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end: For thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel; Behold, therefore I will stretch out mine hand upon thee...”

(Ezekiel 25:5-7)

Another nation on the border of Israel, which had no blood ties of any kind with Israel, was equally consumed by hatred:

“Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the Philistines have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart, to destroy it for the old hatred...” (Ezekiel 25:15)

These verses reveal the satisfaction and pleasure that the enemies of Israel took in her tribulation and destruction. The devastation inflicted on Jerusalem in 586 BC was greeted with great celebration:

“All thine enemies have opened their mouth against thee: they hiss and gnash the teeth: they say, We have swallowed her up: certainly this is the day that we looked for; we have found, we have seen it.” (Lamentations 2:16)

We see in these verses the spirit of Antisemitism, an irrational hatred of one's neighbor, a descendant of Jacob. This same hatred has been at work ever since across the Gentile nations, fostered in the main by a few powerful institutions, notably the Roman Catholic Church in Europe and orthodox Islam in the Middle East. We can see also in the Book of Esther how the hatred of just one individual can, if circumstances permit, ignite a violent wave of persecution across the general population.

The Synagogue of Satan promoted this enmity and kept it alive across Europe and elsewhere by charging predatory rates of interest on loans made to Gentiles, causing great suffering in the process and enabling Jewish leaders (“princes”) to expropriate the wealth of others:

“Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts [bribes], and followeth after rewards [more bribes] ...” (Isaiah 1:23)

“Her princes in the midst thereof [Judea] are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.” (Ezekiel 22:27)

This greed and rapacity may explain what the Word of God describes as a “**curse**” in the Book of Zechariah:

“And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing: fear not, but let your hands be strong.” (Zechariah 8:13)

Zionism Unsettled

There have been so many Antisemitic and anti-Zionist manifestos, movements and programs over the past thirty years or so, all supported or endorsed by the professing Christian church, that it would be impossible to deal satisfactorily with all of them. We will focus instead on just one document, published in 2014, that would seem to amalgamate the bulk of these phony arguments, as well as the fallacies and outright lies that have been used to such poisonous effect in recent years by the enemies of Israel.

In January 2014, the Presbyterian Church (USA) made available for sale on its website a 74-page booklet, ***Zionism Unsettled: A Congregational Study Guide***, which had been compiled by the ***Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church (USA)***. The latter was created in 2004 by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) "to advocate for Palestinian rights."

While the document itself was never officially endorsed by the General Assembly, it received significant informal endorsement from its distribution (along with a companion DVD) via the Presbyterian Church (USA) website, from the fact that it was produced by an official body established for that purpose by the Presbyterian Church (USA), and from the official adoption by the church of a widely publicized anti-Israel divestment strategy.

[All references hereafter to the 'Presbyterian Church' apply to the 'Presbyterian Church USA' **only** and not to any other Presbyterian denomination, either in America or elsewhere.]

Following strong criticism from Jewish groups in America, the Presbyterian Church removed the booklet from its website in June, 2014. A notice dated June 27 stated:

Last week in Detroit, the 221st General Assembly passed a resolution declaring that the booklet *Zionism Unsettled* "does not represent the views of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)." The Israel-Palestine Mission Network, which produced the booklet, may continue to sell and distribute it through other channels.

The hypocrisy behind this announcement was evident for all to see. Incredibly, the Presbyterian Church did **not** reject or condemn the many libelous claims in the document. By withdrawing the offending tract from its website it merely sought to convey the impression that it no longer endorsed its contents. Nevertheless in the same breath it declared that the Israel-Palestine Mission Network – its own subsidiary – "may continue to sell and distribute it through other channels." In other words, apart from this token gesture, the Presbyterian Church continued to approve the distribution of a flagrantly Antisemitic document. By implication, its members too could continue to use it as a *congregational study guide* in a classroom setting and to disseminate its message to a wider audience.

In the following pages we will examine extracts from ***Zionism Unsettled*** and illustrate, as space permits, just how far the Presbyterian Church USA has departed from the immutable truth of God's Word.

The 'Nakba'

"*Nakba* is the Arabic word for 'Catastrophe' and refers to the massive ethnic cleansing of over 750,000 Palestinians, the confiscation of Palestinian land, and the destruction of over 500 Palestinian villages by Israeli forces in 1947-48 when the British vacated Palestine and Israel became a state. The Hebrew term for the Nazi Holocaust, *Shoah*, also translates as 'Catastrophe'. The interconnection and causality between the Jewish and Palestinian catastrophes has led some to observe that the Palestinians are, in some ways, secondary victims of the Nazi Holocaust." - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.6]

The picture presented in this extract is obscene. The displacement of '750,000' Arabs – the number is greatly exaggerated – is placed on the same moral plane as the murder of six million Jews. The fact that the majority of these Arabs left Israel on foot of intimidation from neighboring Arab countries is simply ignored.

Also, the definition that the authors give for the term *Nakba* is grossly misleading. While it certainly means 'Catastrophe', it refers only to the wholesale defeat of the invading Arab nations – who were engaged in a campaign of annihilation – and not to the consequential loss of property by displaced Arabs. The defeat of 1948 was certainly a catastrophe, a major slap in the face for Islam. Even with six well-trained armies and far superior weaponry, they were unable to defeat a tiny beleaguered state in a surprise attack. It was a 'catastrophe' precisely because it was so painfully embarrassing. The Arabs and their proud military leaders had been humiliated before the world.

"...1.2 million Palestinian Arabs live in Israel as second-class citizens" [quote by Professor Rashid Khalidi of Columbia University]. - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.5]

The document fails to state that Arabs living in Israel today, as naturalized citizens, enjoy the same rights in law as other Israelis. The only right that is withheld from them, for obvious reasons, is the right to join the Israeli Defense Forces. Moreover, the number of Arabs living in Israel has continued to increase. Why? Because they enjoy a much better standard of living and greater personal security in Israel than they would in any other Arab country.

Jewish homeland

"Zionism was (and remains) not just about the colonization of Palestinian land, but also about colonizing minds – Jewish, Arab, European, American." [quote by Nur Masalha, Arab historian]

- ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.5]

The accusation that Zionism by its very nature is a subversive ideology runs through the entire document. At no stage does it concede that Zionism is nothing more than the legitimate aspiration among Jewish people worldwide for a homeland of their own and to have it recognized as such by the international community. When various regional Arab groups and tribal coalitions acquired a recognized homeland after the break-up of the Ottoman Empire, they were not accused of pursuing a subversive program of colonization. This charge has never been levelled at the Syrians, the Iraqis, the Saudis, the Jordanians, or the Lebanese, among others. But when the Jews of the Ottoman Empire acquired a homeland on the same basis as other indigenous ethnic groups, in accordance with the same international laws and protocols, they are accused of colonization. The document rages against the very idea that the Jews are entitled to a national homeland. Again and again it equates Zionism, not only with colonization, but with oppression, racism, and ethnic cleansing.

This is **not** a balanced Christian account of the modern history of the Jewish people but a deeply flawed and intensely bigoted attempt to delegitimize the nation state of Israel.

The vilification of Zionism

"...Israel can live in a post-Zionist age by adapting to the world as it is, or it can die in one." [quote by Ian Lustick, lecture at the Carnegie Endowment, 2013] - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.7]

In its vilification of Zionism the document repeatedly asserts that, as an 'ideology', it cannot be tolerated in our modern, pluralistic world. The quotation implies that a "post-Zionist age" is inevitable and that the Jews will either have to accept it or suffer the consequences.

It is deeply disturbing that the Presbyterian Church should use as a 'congregational study guide' a document that not only supports the creation of a "post-Zionist" world but even condones the use of force in order to achieve it.

"With their own people's history in mind, Jewish critics of Israel have warned of the disastrous potential of Jewish state power"
- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.8]

The authors exploit to the utmost the anti-Israeli pronouncements of certain Jews, presumably to deflect from themselves the charge of Antisemitism. They allege that a state in which Jews are in the majority is one in which minorities will at some stage be subjugated or destroyed.

The preceding paragraphs in the document referred to "violence toward other peoples," fanaticism, Muslim extremism, and the Armenian genocide. Thus, they are implying that the continued existence of a Jewish state must necessarily pose a threat to the well-being of other ethnic and religious groups in the region. The racism and hypocrisy behind this allegation are breathtaking. No reference whatever is made to the dozens of despotic Islamic regimes that routinely brutalize, persecute, imprison, torture and murder Christians and other minorities, and yet the authors perceive as dangerous a democratic state that upholds and defends the rights of all her citizens, regardless of their ethnicity or religion.

The Shoah

The document condemns Israel for what it describes as "its obsession with the Shoah" [p.9], claiming that "the distortions of the Holocaust created distortions in its victims."

One of the chief characteristics of an irrational hatred is its determination to deprive the target group of all moral legitimacy. The victims must have done something to bring so much suffering upon themselves. Such persecution is inevitable, it implies, whenever an ethnic or religious group tries to set itself apart. By adopting this cynical technique, the authors attempt to exploit the horror of the *Shoah* for their own selfish ends.

As Christians we know that God Himself set Israel apart and gave to the Jews a role and purpose that distinguished them from all other nations. Why then does the Presbyterian Church see fit to denigrate the Jews in this way? Why do they profess to be Bible-believing Christians and yet condone a document that blatantly conflicts with God's Word?

An attack on Christian Zionists

"Christian Zionism... [has] been sheltered from open debate despite the intolerable human rights abuses rooted in [its] core beliefs" - *Zionism Unsettled* [p.9]

The document vilifies, not only Jewish Zionists but Christian Zionists, namely Bible-believing Christians who accept as irrevocable the covenant that the LORD made with the children of Israel. The implications of this charge are far-reaching since the authors are effectively saying that it is immoral, not just to support Zionism, but to believe that the Bible endorses the Jewish claim to the land of Israel.

A critical line has been crossed here. The authors presume to have the authority to condemn, not only Jews who support Israel, but also Christians who do so, even on Scriptural grounds.

Many readers of the document will probably miss the significance of this. Christian Zionism is being classified as a thought crime against humanity. Bible-believing Christians can no longer interpret the Bible as their conscience and their understanding direct but are obliged instead to accept the interpretation handed down by the 'experts'. The Presbyterian elders, presumably, will decide what the Bible 'really' means and ostracize anyone who thinks otherwise. In short, Christian Zionism is now being treated as a heresy, even if the label is not being applied in this instance (though it is applied later in the document!).

In the past a heresy was defined exclusively by reference to theological considerations, but not anymore. As the document says, "no exceptionalist claims can be justified in our interconnected, pluralistic world" [p.9]. Today the mainstream 'Christian' churches are using social and political criteria to decide what the Bible 'really' means and thereby formulating an entirely new class of heresy.

We should hardly be surprised that the Presbyterian Church (USA) also supports the homosexual agenda, including same-sex 'marriage', and reinterprets (i.e. dismisses) the verses in Scripture that plainly describe homosexuality as sinful.

The foundation of Israel

"The United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) 1947 partition plan granted a disproportionate share of territory to the Zionists relative to either their population or their land ownership at the time." - *Zionism Unsettled* [p.10]

The above quotation fails to mention that UNSCOP acted **contrary** to international law by reducing the territory granted to the new state of Israel to less than one fifth of the land allocated for that purpose under the San Remo accord of 1920. Yes, the UNSCOP grant was "disproportionate," but in favor of the Arabs, not the Jews! This is one of several instances where the authors amend or ignore documented historical facts to support their version of events. It should be noted, also, that the Jews living in Israel at that time are here described as 'Zionists', thereby implying that the state of Israel at its foundation, regardless of its territorial extent, was illegitimate.

The protection of Israel

"The 2004 International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling against the separation barrier Israel has constructed on expropriated Palestinian land within the West Bank calls on Israel to "cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territories..."

- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.10]

The Presbyterian document condemns the construction of the wall that protects ordinary Israelis from suicide bombers and Islamic assassins. No mention is made of the many lives lost in such attacks or of the terror generated by the random butchery of innocent people. Instead they complain of "concomitant infringements...on Palestinian freedom of movement." They clearly see no moral discontinuity between the convenience of Arabs and the murder of Jews.

The document then launches into a bitter tirade against the US for using its veto at the UN Security Council to protect Israel from a long series of adverse UN Resolutions. Without a hint of irony, it claims that the "will of the majority" has been sidelined, where the majority in question invariably includes the 50 or so Islamic states that hate Israel and have pledged to destroy her.

Along the way it cites UN Security Council Resolution 267 of 3 July, 1969, which reaffirmed "the established principle that acquisition of territory by military conquest is inadmissible." This implies that Israel had engaged in a campaign of military conquest when in fact she had sought only to prevent a large invasion force from annexing her territory and, if possible, destroying her completely. It is a long established principle of warfare that when a country engages in a campaign of extermination, it risks losing part of its own territory. Israel was both morally entitled and militarily obliged to retain territory gained in these wars of self-defense. This included Judea and Samaria (the so-called West Bank), the Gaza strip, the Golan Heights, the Sinai Peninsula, and east Jerusalem.

The Presbyterian document pretends throughout that Israel is the aggressor, when history clearly shows that she is the target of an ongoing Islamic campaign to wipe her off the map and murder or relocate her entire population. The document cannot concede, even in principle, that Israel has every right to defend herself by force. Neither does it question the ongoing Islamic campaign of murder and aggression or the grotesque enforcement of values and standards found in the Koran. Indeed, anyone who was unfamiliar with the religious beliefs of the Presbyterian Church (USA) would never guess, from this document alone, that it was grounded in the gospel or teachings of Jesus Christ.

"As expected war broke out between Jewish and Arab forces when Israel declared independence in May, 1948"
- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.14]

This is typical of the authors' cavalier treatment of undisputed historical facts. War did not "break out" – implying that both sides were to blame – but one side launched a massive military invasion on several fronts with a view to annihilating the other. Furthermore the Jews did not declare independence unilaterally in May 1948 but instead exercised the right they already had under international law to establish a Jewish homeland in the Holy Land. The UN had already formally approved the creation of the state of Israel via Resolution 181, dated 29 November 1947.

The account of page 14 of the alleged "systematic and total expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland" in the period 1947-49 is not supported by historical evidence. The majority of Arabs left in response to pressure from military leaders in neighboring Arab states. Anyone who remained ran the risk of being branded a traitor to the Arab cause. Besides, they expected to be able to return a few months later once the 'Jewish question' had been settled through murder and bloodshed.

Taqiyya

The credibility of Arab claims is further undermined by an Islamic practice of long standing known as *Taqiyya*, whereby a Muslim is permitted, even required, to deceive his enemy, by lies and fabrication if necessary, in order to advance the cause of Islam.

"...the region [north Africa and the Middle East] became inflamed at the perceived injustice of the enforced partition of Palestine, the creation of a Jewish state, the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians..."
- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.14]

In line with *Taqiyya*, the historical narrative is turned upside down. The authors are claiming, disingenuously, that the creation of a Jewish state was *indeed* unjust, that the Jews had no legal entitlement to land in the region, and that the Arab claims of mass expulsion were entirely accurate.

They do not acknowledge that the Arabs violated international law by evicting around 800,000 Jews from Arab countries around this time and expropriating their property. They also fail to mention that the UN offered the Arabs a significant parcel of land – a *second* 'Palestinian' state – within the territory covered by the British Mandate, but they refused to accept it. [We will discuss the *first* 'Palestinian' state [Jordan] in a moment.]

The Presbyterian Dismissal of the Bible

"...the secular Ben-Gurion appropriated the biblical stories for a nationalistic civil religion that would later buttress the expansionism [of Israel]" - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.15]

Ben-Gurion is denounced for consulting the Bible. Later in the document the authors deride Netanyahu's revival of the regular Bible Class that Ben-Gurion conducted, dismissing it as "a nationalist appropriation of the Bible as history." [p.22]

This is an extraordinary claim. One would have thought that, of all people, the Jews were entitled to seek guidance from the Bible and to treat it as a legitimate historical record, but the Presbyterian document alleges that their leaders are using it only as a pretext for an expansionist agenda. While the Synagogue of Satan may weaponize parts of the Bible for their own purposes, the Jews as a people are fully entitled to consult the Word of God and use it as a means of interpreting His plan for Israel.

Constantinian religion

"Israeli policies are also an expression of 'Constantinian religion'"
- ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.16]

This refers to "the fusion of state power with Judaism" [p.16], which the authors allege is abusive in much the same way that the state power wielded by the Roman Catholic Church was abusive (following the adoption of 'Christianity' as the official religion of the empire by the Emperor Constantine in 312 AD). The authors are trying to defame the civil government of Israel by claiming that its Judaic character necessarily causes it to discriminate against non-Jews. The libel is magnified by comparing Israel with the church of Rome, which has a long and sadistic history of Antisemitism. The document is suggesting that, since the Jews were at one time the victims of systematic state persecution, they have perversely incorporated a similar prejudice into their own state apparatus.

The same technique is being used again, whereby the past suffering of the Jews is imputed to a supposed defect in their spiritual and moral character. Facetious and irrational arguments like this have been used routinely by Antisemites for centuries to prove that the Jews are, and will always be, an endless source of trouble for the rest of humanity.

The mythical 'state' of 'Palestine'

"These changes had the effect of erasing Palestine not only from maps but also from the minds of Israelis"

- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.18]

After the annexation of the 'West Bank' by the Israeli government in 1967, the Israelis renamed it *Judea and Samaria*. Given that these names were applied historically to the region, it seemed eminently reasonable to incorporate them into maps used by Israeli students. Prior to 1967, the territory was governed by Jordan and never existed as a sovereign entity known as 'Palestine'. In reality 'Palestine' is not a political term at all but a topographical designation, similar to 'Iberia'. Iberia comprises three political entities – Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar – but does not in itself have any necessary political connotations.

The Presbyterian document is peddling the old lie that a sovereign entity known as 'Palestine' had once existed in the region but that due to the perfidy of the Jews it has since been extinguished. However, such an entity has *never* existed. As a topographical region it was never more than a tiny province in the Ottoman Empire. Even when it was under Arab control – when Jordan governed the region of Judea and Samaria in the period 1949-1967 – it was regarded as an amorphous tract of land with no ethnic association. The idea that it belonged to a distinct group of Arabs known as 'Palestinians' was considered ridiculous, even by the Arabs themselves.

The charge of racism

"This is one example of the similarities between Zionism, South African apartheid, and Jim Crow segregation in the Southern US"

- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.18]

According to the Presbyterian document, the Jews are racist because they believe what the LORD said about them in the Bible. It seems Zionism is an ideology with "a political-religious blend" [p.18] that cannot be trusted. Without any historical evidence, the authors make an inexplicable connection between Jewish nationalism and the deplorable history of racial discrimination in South Africa and the US. The reader is being asked to believe a scurrilous non-sequitur, namely that an Israeli who loves his country, and who does so on religious grounds, must by definition be a racist brute. Sadly, this kind of "reasoning" and pseudo-logic abounds throughout the document.

Through several disparaging references to Jabotinsky, Begin, the *Irgun*, and armed activism generally by the Israelis, the document implies that the Jews should continue to submit passively to the same Gentile oppression that they have had to endure for nearly two thousand years. It would take far more space than we have available to deal with the many false accusations that are scattered throughout the document, the repeated mischaracterization of Israeli attempts to defend their country, and the astonishing indifference by the critics of Israel to the ongoing war of aggression, terrorism and political sabotage that is being conducted against her by the Arabs and the nations of Islam.

The document even trivializes genuine Israeli concerns about their own survival in the face of continual aggression – "Israeli politics are driven by actual and manipulated fear of annihilation (another Holocaust)..." [p.20] While members of the Presbyterian church may worry about the cost of living or rising unemployment, the citizens of Israel worry whether their children will come home safely from school, whether a rocket fired by Hamas or Hezbollah will explode in their back yard, or whether their town or village will still be standing in five years time. And they have genuine (and justifiable) concern that in the long run the rabid bands of Islam will eventually succeed in overwhelming their country and wiping them all out.

The Hamas Covenant 1988 gives ample evidence of this intention. The Covenant regards all of Israel as occupied Islamic territory and states that the "vast Arab and Islamic world" must wage war, Jihad, "until the enemy is vanquished":

"This Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS), clarifies its perspective, reveals its identity, outlines its stance, explains its aims, speaks about its hopes, and calls for its support, adoption and joining its ranks. Our struggle against the Jews is very great and very serious. It needs all sincere efforts. It is a step that inevitably should be followed by other steps. The Movement is but one squadron that should be supported by more and more squadrons from this vast Arab and Islamic world, until the enemy is vanquished and Allah's victory is realised." [from Preamble]

"The day that enemies usurp part of Moslem land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Moslem. In face of the Jews' usurpation of Palestine, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised. To do this requires the diffusion of Islamic consciousness among the masses, both on the regional, Arab and Islamic levels. It is necessary to instill the spirit of Jihad in the heart of the nation so that they would confront the enemies and join the ranks of the fighters." [from Article 15]

The cynical rejection of historical facts

"It is hard to find any evidence that recent Israeli governments have any intention of negotiating a just peace with Palestinians."

- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.20]

This is yet another contemptuous dismissal of established facts. The Israeli government has long sought a fair basis for a negotiated settlement with the Arabs, but has been frustrated again and again by Islamic intransigence. Despite having made a number of major concessions over the years, the Arabs have never responded in kind. In fact they have moved in the opposite direction and used terror as an instrument of 'negotiation', thereby deliberately reducing the prospects of a peaceful solution.

"...Palestinian recognition of Israel as a "Jewish state" would mean acceptance that the Jews have existed in the Middle East for thousands of years..." - *Zionism Unsettled* [p.21]

But they *have* existed in the Middle East for thousands of years! The Presbyterian Church has departed so far from Biblical truth that it is prepared to question this simple fact.

The homes being built by Jews in Judea and Samaria are described as "illegal Jewish settlements" [p.7]. It is extraordinary that a so-called 'Christian' document should claim that Jews have no entitlement to build in this region but that Arabs have. The supposed illegality of these settlements is based on resolutions passed by the UN, an organization that has consistently opposed all attempts by Israel to protect her territorial integrity and which even passed a resolution in 1975 condemning Zionism "as a form of racism" (This was not rescinded until 1991).

Given that the UN Charter is based on the constitution of the old Soviet Union, that it is flagrantly hostile to Judeo-Christian values, and that its primary purpose is the replacement of independent sovereign states with a global system of governance, its ongoing hostility to Israel is easy to understand. When one adds to this mix the potent Antisemitism of over fifty Islamic countries and the prevalence of Marxist ideology among the ruling classes of many UN member states, we have a situation where 'legal' and 'legality' mean whatever the majority decides.

A Bible-believing Christian knows that this is not God's way, but it would seem that the Presbyterian Church has lost all fear of God and found its own way.

[As I examined the document there were several occasions when I thought, 'They can't actually be saying this!' But they were, and more besides.]

Christian Zionism is described as a heresy

"The time has come for us all to name the Christian theological and ethical failures that gave rise to Zionism..."
- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.23]

Here we have a fairly direct attack on Christian Zionism, where Christians who support Israel on Biblical grounds – and who take Bible prophecy seriously – will in future be marginalized and possibly even labelled apostate for their beliefs.

Some modern theologians are already describing Christian Zionism as either an aberration or a heresy. Since the number of Christians who support Israel has fallen dramatically over the past few decades, the deliberate isolation of those who remain faithful to Bible prophecy will have a major impact on the born-again Christian church.

We are witnessing today, not just an attack on Israel and Judaism, but on the fundamental doctrines of Bible-based Christianity. This document, and others like it, are part of an orchestrated campaign of change within the church, where the interpretation of Bible doctrine will be shaped primarily by its role in promoting inclusiveness, tolerance, and interfaith dialogue. The Bible will no longer mean what it plainly says – and Christians who continue to believe that it does will be "held accountable." If you doubt this, then consider one of the questions listed for *Reflection* on p.43 of the document:

1. Should US Christian and Jewish organizations that promote a pro-Zionist US foreign policy be held accountable for promoting violence and oppression toward the Palestinian people?
- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.43]

What exactly do they mean by "held accountable"? This question, and the fact that it is even asked, is an indication of how sinister this document really is, both in tone and content.

The Emirate of Trans-Jordan

"As the colonial British Mandate was terminated in 1947, Palestinians did not gain sovereignty and self-determination as did other peoples emerging from colonialism..."
- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.27]

This is a serious distortion of what actually happened. The Emirate of Transjordan, now known simply as Jordan, was recognized by the League of Nations in 1922 – even though the land in question was part of the territory administered by Britain for the purpose of establishing a Jewish homeland. In other words, the Arabs living in the land of Israel – which today are referred to erroneously as 'Palestinians' – were given their *own* sovereign state in 1922. The legal claim on this territory by the Jews under the San Remo agreement of 1920 was simply ignored by the British.

Jordan is 35,600 square miles in extent, while Israel today is 10,700 square miles. Given that all of this territory – some 46,000 square miles – had been set aside under international law for the establishment of a Jewish homeland, the **Arabs** ended up owning 77 per cent of it! And yet they are still demanding a large chunk of the remainder, which legally belongs to Israel.

The Presbyterian document also perpetuates the myth that the Arabs living under the Mandate were a distinct ethnic group, known as the 'Palestinians'. As history plainly shows, this claim is absurd. They were in the main economic migrants (first and second generation) from neighboring Arab countries, attracted to Israel by the successful agricultural and industrial enterprises introduced by the Jews. Many today have Arabic names that suggest their possible country of origin. Some of the most common 'Palestinian' names include Al-Mughrabi (meaning "the Moroccan"), Al-Yamani ("the Yemini"), Al-Djazair ("the Algerian"), Halabi (from Aleppo, Syria), Hourani (from Hauran, southern Syria), Al-Masri ("the Egyptian"), Al-Baghdadi (from Baghdad), etc.

Yasser Arafat was the chief architect of the 'Palestinian' deception, but he made the mistake of choosing a flag for his fictional ethnic group that was virtually identical to that of Jordan, the real home of the so-called Palestinian Arabs:



Flag of Jordan



Flag of 'Palestine'

As Arafat boasted in his official biography, "If there is any such thing as a Palestinian people, it is I, Yasser Arafat, who created them." (*Arafat* by Alan Hart, 1994). The biography contains several more quotations by Arafat in a similar vein.

Vatican hostility to the Jews and Israel

"*Nostra Aetate* brought an end to Roman Catholic theological criticism of Judaism and consequently the state of Israel. After 1965, Vatican criticism of Israel would be grounded in ethical, not theological, objections, and the need for peace based on a just solution to sharing the land of Palestine between the two peoples."

- *Zionism Unsettled* [p.29]

Contrary to what this extract declares, the Papal document *Nostra Aetate* did **not** end the Vatican's theological objection to Judaism and Israel. While it actually made some relatively positive statements about Judaism, which it had never previously done, the fundamental theological objection was not removed. As *Nostra Aetate* states, "...the church is the new people of God..." This is the old lie of Replacement Theology, with all the antipathy, both political and theological, that this entails.

Surprisingly, with the publication of *Nostra Aetate*, many Jews mistakenly believed that the Roman Catholic Church had undergone a major change in attitude toward Judaism and Israel. They failed to see that the five-word lie – "the church has replaced Israel" – was the original and abiding source of all Roman Catholic hostility to Judaism. While the charge of deicide, which historically had figured prominently in the popular imagination, was the main emotional conduit for this hostility, it was enabled in the main by the indelible theological conviction that God had decisively and permanently rejected the Jews.

We would note also that *Nostra Aetate* did not recognize the truth of Judaism in its own right, but only that it shared in the esteem warranted by all major world religions. From a Papal perspective, as far as any claim upon revealed truth is concerned, Judaism is no different from Islam, Buddhism or Hinduism.

The God of Israel

""A voice that looks to the messianic day in which all nations will ultimately serve the *God of Israel* cannot be the voice of God"... Devoted followers of every religion are moved in this manner by their own holy narratives." - *Zionism Unsettled* [p.30]

The document completely rejects the exclusivity of the truths revealed in the Bible and grants to other religions – including Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism – a portion of truth which, within their own 'holy narratives', is as valid as that of the Scripture revealed to the Jews.

It is difficult to believe that this heresy actually appears in a 'congregational study guide' recommended by the Presbyterian Church. We have here a so-called Christian church that no longer teaches that God's revelation of Himself in Christ is the sole foundation of truth. According to the authors, the most that any Christian can claim is that "the life, death, and resurrection of Christ is the most complete revelation of God *that we know and that we have experienced.*" [p.30] (emphasis in original).

This is the old pagan lie that "all paths lead to god." It is also the foundation on which the coming one-world religion will be built – where all truth is god's truth, where god is whatever you conceive him to be, where no souls are eternally damned, where everyone is a divine spark or atom of god, where all religions are an expression of divine truth, where all men and women are evolving into a higher state of consciousness, where fresh revelation is being received by contemporary prophets and mystics, and where no book, teaching or religion can claim to possess the whole of truth.

We can see from this that the document aims, not only to undermine the Scriptural validity of God's promises to the Jews, but to reduce Christianity itself to the level of other world religions. Perhaps Christianity has 'more' of the truth, but other religions have their respective portions and must be accorded parity of esteem. In this way, the authors are able to advance the 'consensus view' of truth and thereby deny both Christian Zionists and Jewish Zionists the right to use terms like "chosen people," Promised Land, or "God of Israel."

Since the term "God of Israel" is used over two hundred times in Scripture, we can only assume that the Presbyterian Church would like to see yet another new translation of the Bible, where this and other equally undesirable terms are omitted or 'sanitized'. Given that they want to "move interfaith dialogue to ever deeper levels" [p.30], this is almost certainly on the agenda, both to disarm the Zionists theologically and to pave the way for a globally standardized, all-inclusive form of new age 'Christianity.'

""Its [i.e. Zionism's] inspiration has been drawn not from the profound thoughts of the Hebrew Scriptures, but from those portions that betray a narrow and exclusive concept of a tribal god."" [quote by Naim Ateek] - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.33]

The document quotes with approval the Antisemitic Anglican canon, Naim Ateek. Though nominally a Christian, Ateek here makes the infamous Marcionite distinction between the so-called 'tribal' god of the Old Testament and the true God of the New Testament. The Gnostic heretic Marcion denied the scriptural validity of the Old Testament and dismissed the LORD God of the Pentateuch, Joshua and Judges as a vindictive tribal god.

This is a tactic much favored by the enemies of Israel and Christian Zionism. With one stroke it allows them to erase the Biblical history of the children of Israel and to portray Jewish Zionists as a backward-looking, tribal society unfit for life in today's "interconnected, pluralistic world" [p.9].

How is it possible, you may ask, for both the Anglican and the Presbyterian churches to treat the Word of God with so little respect? If this question could be answered satisfactorily, then perhaps the bizarre mentality and emotional intensity of Anti-semitism would be easier to understand.

The document, ***Zionism Unsettled***, is being recommended as a 'congregational study guide' for use by millions of Presbyterians, Anglicans, Episcopalians, and members of other professing Christian churches – all of which claim to believe and uphold the Word of God – and yet it is dedicated to one solitary purpose, the deconstruction of Israel. Along the way it denounces all who support Israel, whether Christian or Jew; rejects or ignores any documented historical fact that might confirm the legitimacy of Israel; denies the Israelis the right to defend their own territory by force; and rejects the veracity of the Biblical account of their history and prophetic destiny. And yet we are asked to believe that it is a *Christian* document!

The Presbyterian Church contends, for example, that the Bible contains "texts that liberate" and "texts that oppress," where the latter "espouse triumphalism, xenophobia, and the extermination of indigenous peoples..." [p.34] In short, it too is comfortable with the Marcionite view, at least insofar as it advances the so-called Palestinian agenda by eliminating "texts that oppress." Incredibly, the document even suggests that we should read the Biblical account of the conquest of Canaan through the eyes of the Canaanites and acknowledge that "the God of the Israelites appears to sanction ethnic cleansing, war crimes, and crimes against humanity." [p.35]

It ought to be apparent to even the least attentive reader that this document is not just deeply Antisemitic, but also deeply **heretical**. It rejects anything in the Bible that conflicts with its political agenda, even if this means accusing the LORD of "war crimes, and crimes against humanity." As the document cynically remarks, "History is, as they say, written by the victors."

According to Ateek and the Anti-Zionists, the LORD seemingly had no right to execute His summary judgment on Sodom and the other cities. Just like their brothers and sisters in the New Age movement, they believe their god is a god of love who would never commit such a "crime against humanity."

Yes, the God of Israel **is** a God of love, but divine love will tolerate persistent wickedness for only so long. The Marcionite heresy is popular today because it allows men to believe they will never be held personally accountable before God for their actions. Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboim are solemn historical reminders that this is absolutely not the case!

The rejection of Bible prophecy

"Instead of engaging in the work of building society as part of heeding Christ's call to share the Gospel, this pessimistic worldview encourages Christians to set themselves apart from society to prepare for judgment day." - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.45]

This section of the document attacks the dispensational interpretation of the Bible, which holds that God is implementing His program of redemption in steps or historical phases [known as *dispensations*] and that the prophetic dimension of His revelation should be understood accordingly. Christians who take a straightforward, non-mystical, interpretation of End Time prophecy recognize that this current age will culminate, not in a manmade utopia ruled by Christians, but in a seven-year period of intense global turmoil known as the Tribulation. This will include the war of Armageddon in the land of Israel and the ultimate defeat of the Antichrist.

The Presbyterian Church rejects the literal interpretation of Bible prophecy and, in the main, conceives of a future where the whole of humanity will eventually convert to Christianity. Thus, from their perspective, Christians who accept that the Tribulation is inevitable are locked into a "pessimistic worldview" and are disconnected from the real issues facing modern society. As such they have betrayed the Gospel and are spreading a fatalism that will only harm the church.

When portrayed in this light, Christian Zionists are meant to be seen as a deluded, loony fringe who preach a false version of Christianity and who add to the problems of the world by supporting Israel.

"Therefore they [Christians who oppose Zionism] engage in the work of justice and peace rather than seeking an escape from history and God's final blockbuster, the destruction of all unbelievers." - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.46]

The disparaging tone of this excerpt is fairly typical of the attitude generally to Christian Zionists throughout the document. They are depicted as narrow-minded bigots who try to hide from reality, who neglect the need to promote justice and peace, and who cling to an infantile vision of the future where all the bad guys are annihilated supernaturally. Why, these deluded people even expect a 'second coming' of Christ. The message is clear: Christian Zionism is dangerous and must be confronted.

Everyone owns Israel

"the New Testament...spiritualizes and universalizes the Old Testament land promises" - *Zionism Unsettled* [p.47]

In addition to the rejection of Bible prophecy relating to the End Time, the document rejects the continuing validity of the promises made by the LORD God of Israel to His chosen people. These promises have now been "spiritualized" and "universalized". As a result they have been "transformed and opened to all humanity" [p.47] In effect the authors are arguing that the Promised Land now belongs to all mankind and that the Israelis have no right to claim it as their own.

While the Marcionites dealt with problematic passages in the Old Testament by rejecting the Old Testament entirely, the modernists choose instead to "spiritualize" them and change their intended or natural meaning.

The document also mischaracterizes the Christian Zionist and dispensationalist position by alleging that it teaches two covenants, one for the church and one for Israel. But this is not the case. The church shares in the same covenant that God made with Israel, with the key distinction that the church is not a nation and thus cannot appropriate the land-related aspects of the covenant.

In a section headed 'What Diaspora?' the document tries to contend that, since not all Jews living outside Israel want to relocate to Israel, the concept of a Jewish Diaspora is no longer meaningful. But this is a specious argument. Not all Irish people live in Ireland, nor choose to, but that does not diminish in any way the integrity of Ireland as an independent sovereign state under international law. Neither does it preclude the use of the term *Irish diaspora* as a reference to the millions of Irish people living outside Ireland.

In mocking the validity of the Jewish Diaspora, the document is also contradicting the Bible which in numerous places refers to the scattering of the Jews to the four corners of the globe and to their subsequent return to Israel. Scripture also states that, once restored to the land, they will never again be uprooted:

**"And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall
no more be pulled up out of their land which I
have given them, saith the LORD thy God."
(Amos 9:15)**

Islamic attitudes to the Jews and Israel

In a document that manages to pack multiple fallacies or inaccuracies into nearly every page, section 8, '*A Palestinian Muslim Experience with Zionism*', may well be in a league of its own.

In the age-old tradition of *Taqiyya*, which exhorts Muslims to deceive their enemies in the cause of Islam – even if this means denying the facts of history or inventing new ones – the section makes outrageous claims. It alleges, for instance, that the Israelis "slaughtered untold numbers of Palestinian men, women, and children" [p.49] during the so-called *Nakba* of 1947-1948. This charge is so egregious that it is impossible to understand how the Presbyterian Church could see fit to include it in a document that purports to offer a truthful Christian perspective on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

It then goes on to contrast what it describes as the "inclusive theology of the *Qur'an*" with the "exclusive theology of Zionism." For example, it states:

"The *Qur'an* insists that Muslims demonstrate God's special respect for Jews and Christians because God is revealed in all three Abrahamic faiths." - ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.50]

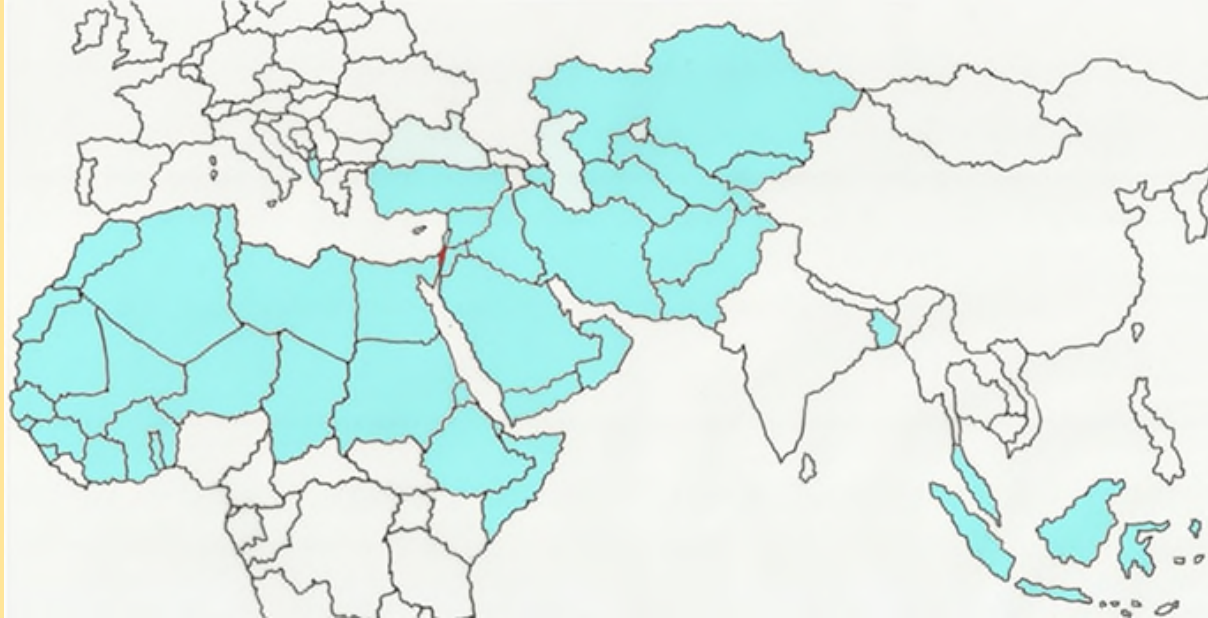
Here we have *Taqiyya* on roller-skates, where brazen falsehoods are presented as well-known truths. The Koran and Sunna actually say the **opposite** of what the document claims, demanding that Jews and Christians be compelled to submit to one of the following: (a) lifelong social subjection as a Dhimmi, with the oppression, abuse, and economic exploitation that this entails; (b) compulsory conversion to Islam; (c) permanent exile, with the expropriation of personal property; or (d) summary execution. The Presbyterian Church tries to pass this off as "special respect for Jews and Christians."

The extract also speaks of *Abrahamic faiths*. There is only one Abrahamic faith and that is Judeo-Christianity. Islam is not Abrahamic and has no connection whatever with either Judaism or Christianity. Rather, it is an attempt to absorb and destroy both by commandeering their history, their Scriptures, and their prophets, and, via forced conversion, compelling Jews and Christians to bow the knee to Baal. The 'god' of the Koran hates the LORD God of Israel and condemns belief in the deity of Jesus as *shirk*, the greatest blasphemy of all.

The section also ignores another deceitful aspect of Koranic hermeneutics known as Abrogation. This nullifies earlier, less oppressive verses of the Koran by giving priority to those written in the latter part of Muhammad's life. Since these later verses (which are scattered throughout the Koran) express an appalling intolerance towards Jews and Christians, they underpin the radical Islamic attitude to other religions.

Not only does Islam want to appropriate the history, Scripture, and prophets of the Jews, but it also wants to take their land and their holy city, Jerusalem.

The World of Islam



As you can see, the Islamic world is enormous compared to Israel (shown in **red**). So why do 1,570 million Muslims want to destroy a tiny population of 5 million Jews? Why do Muslims, with 10,830,000 square miles of land, covet the tiny parcel of land called Israel – a mere 10,800 square miles (one thousandth that of Islam)? Why can't the Muslim world, with its incredibly vast territory, find a home for four million Arab refugees? Why do so many Muslim countries continue to oppress and persecute thousands of peace-loving Christians within their borders? Please take the time to reflect on these deeply disturbing questions and find Christ-honoring answers.

A deeply unpalatable fact

In a section titled 'A Palestinian Christian Postscript', written by Anglican priest Naim Ateek, it is alleged that Christian Zionists support Israel in part because they believe that a general conflagration in the Middle East would hasten the apocalyptic "End Times" and "the return of Christ." It also alleges that Christian Zionists support Israel because of "price tag" theology, whereby the legitimization of Israel is the price that Christians feel they must pay in order to expunge the guilt they experience from their cruel treatment of the Jews throughout history.

Once again we see a cynical mischaracterization of the Christian Zionist position. While these factors may apply to a trivial extent, the basic and fundamental reason that Christians support Israel is because it is Biblical to do so. This is a deeply unpalatable fact that critics like Ateek cannot accept.

The LORD God loves Jerusalem and has set it aside for His Son whom, at a time of His own choosing, He will send to rule in person over the saved remnant of Israel. Satan hates this prospect – since it will crown the work of Calvary – and will continue to resist it to the very end by every means possible.

Ateek also attacks what he calls "the erroneous claim that all Jews are racial descendants of the Israelites of biblical times" [p.57]. This bitter accusation is being used with increasing frequency to undermine the Jewish claim to the land of Israel. If Replacement Theology doesn't work ("you did not inherit the promises because they now belong to the church"), then another version of the same technique is used ("you did not inherit the promises because you are not really Jewish").

The vast majority of people in Israel who claim to be Jewish are undoubtedly Jewish, and, as Jews, they are Jewish in the full Biblical sense. While the Bible speaks of "the synagogue of Satan, 'who say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie'" (Revelation 3:9) it is referring to a subversive cohort within the worldwide community of Jews who share Satan's hatred of the Jews. Several Bible prophecies make it quite clear that the nation that returns to the land of Israel from the four corners of the world – to which they have been scattered in judgment – will be the nation to which the prophecies and promises refer.

Ateek then makes a statement that has chilling implications:

"The casual reader may miss the severity of these charges. It is the equivalent of declaring Zionism heretical, a doctrine that fosters both political and theological injustice. This is the strongest condemnation that a Christian confession can make against any doctrine that promotes death rather than life."

- ***Zionism Unsettled*** [p.57]

The hostility embedded in these words is clearly shared by the leaders of the Presbyterian Church. Christian Zionists are heretics, they claim, and rightfully deserve "the strongest condemnation."

Please pause and think about this for a moment. Up to this point, using a series of phony arguments and twisted history, the document has condemned Christian Zionism as a heresy and demanded that Christian Zionists be "held accountable." It now goes a step further and classifies this newly minted heresy as the most dangerous brand of false teaching, namely a "doctrine that promotes death rather than life."

Since the odium of heresy must at some stage result in formal censure and salutary punishment, we can expect the Presbyterian Church to take whatever steps are necessary to deal with this problem. Indeed, Ateek suggests that "the punishment of exclusion is warranted" [p.58].

Given the stridency of this document and the willingness of the Presbyterian Church to use it as a teaching aid, Christian Zionists will likely be purged from the liberal protestant churches in the near future and condemned as a sect.

The Presbyterian Church is already supporting the coercive campaign known as BDS – boycott, divestment, sanctions – to punish Israel. This involves the boycott of goods originating in Israel, divestment from companies linked to Israel, and the imposition of sanctions that would inhibit trade in Israeli goods. It would require only a minor adjustment to extend this campaign to businesses owned by, or employing, known Christian Zionists.

The Presbyterian Church USA

While the document itself is truly malicious, an extraordinary compendium of Antisemitic propaganda, our real concern is the degree to which a so-called Christian church is willing to bear witness to its contents and even to recommend its use as a *congregational study guide*. The Presbyterian church has turned its back on true Christianity. In doing so it has not only twisted the Word of God in countless ways in order to pursue a nasty political agenda, but it has strayed several times into positions that are plainly heretical.

If there are any genuine Christians among the membership of the Presbyterian Church (USA), they ought to be deeply concerned at what their leaders are doing in their name. The LORD will hold each and every one of us accountable for our conduct in this matter.

What future can there be for a Church that blasphemes the LORD? The Presbyterian Church (USA) stands with Naim Ateek when he accuses the God of Israel of "war crimes" against the tribes of Canaan. Are Christians blind to the wickedness at work here? Have they drifted so far from God's Holy Word that they can tolerate such flagrant apostasy in their midst?

As the Bible warns, rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and yet we have today an ever-growing number of professing Christians who are indifferent to witchcraft or who hardly understand that such a thing exists.

“And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.”

– Zechariah 12:3

CONCLUSION

As more and more voices call for the containment and punishment of Israel, Jews everywhere will face great antagonism. This will likely flare into serious outbursts of violence and egregious conduct by some of those who hate Israel. The Antisemitism of Nazi Germany will become a worldwide phenomenon.

The lies are many. We will need to learn how to see through them.

Christians who are faithful to the Word of God – who acknowledge the right of Israel to exist as a sovereign nation and to defend herself against her enemies, who understand and believe the prophetic promises which God made to the Children of Israel – will need to seek His will in these matters. What does He require of them personally?

At minimum we will need to understand what God has said about Israel in the End Time. We will continue to love our neighbors, regardless of where they stand, and to express – to whatever degree is appropriate – our views about Israel based on our knowledge and understanding of His Word.

Christians who attend a church that is overtly hostile to Israel may find it necessary to worship elsewhere. Depending on the circumstances, they may also feel a need to reassure individual Jews in their community that God has not abandoned the Jews as a people.

We will need great patience. Few Gentiles will listen to anything we say. That's the nature of this intense spiritual battle.

“And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he sware to our father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.”

- Luke 1:67-75

“And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.” - Luke 1:30-33

**Jeremy James
Ireland
November 20, 2023**

- SPECIAL REQUEST -

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APPENDIX A

EXTRACT FROM

Two Hundred Years Together: Russo-Jewish History

by Alexandr Solzhenitsyn

If one follows the presentation of J. D. Bruzкус, respected Jewish author of the mid 20th century, a certain part of the Jews from Persia moved across the Derbent Pass to the lower Volga where Atil [west coast of Caspian on Volga delta], the capital city of the Khazarian Khanate rose up starting 724 AD. The tribal princes of the Turkish Khazars, at the time still idol-worshippers, did not want to accept either the Muslim faith – lest they should be subordinated to the caliph of Baghdad – nor to Christianity – lest they come under vassalage to the Byzantine emperor; and so the clan went over to the Jewish faith in 732. But there was also a Jewish colony in the Bosporan Kingdom [on the Taman Peninsula at east end of the Crimea, separating the Black Sea from the Sea of Azov] to which Hadrian had Jewish captives brought in 137, after the victory over Bar-Kokhba. Later a Jewish settlement sustained itself without break under the Goths and Huns in the Crimea; especially Kaffa (Feodosia) remained Jewish. In 933 Prince Igor [912-945, Grand Prince of Kiev, successor of Oleg, regent after death of Riurik founder of the Kiev Kingdom in 862] temporarily possessed Kerch, and his son Sviatoslav [Grand Prince 960-972] [G14] wrested the Don region from the Khazars. The Kiev Rus already ruled the entire Volga region including Atil in 909, and Russian ships appeared at Samander [south of Atil on the west coast of the Caspian]. Descendents of the Khazars were the Kумыks in the Caucasus. In the Crimea, on the other hand, they combined with the Polovtsy [nomadic Turkish branch from central Asia, in the northern Black Sea area and the Caucasus since the 10th century; called Cuman by western historians; see second map, below] to form the Crimean Tatars. (But the Karaim [a Jewish sect that does not follow the Talmud] and Jewish residents of the Crimea did not go over to the Muslim Faith.) The Khazars were finally conquered [much later] by Tamerlane [or Timur, the 14th century conqueror].

A few researchers however hypothesize (exact proof is absent) that the Hebrews had wandered to some extent through the south Russian region in west and northwest direction. Thus the Orientalist and Semitist Abraham Harkavy for example writes that the Jewish congregation in the future Russia “emerged from Jews that came from the Black Sea coast and from the Caucasus, where their ancestors had lived since the Assyrian and Babylonian captivity.” J. D. Bruzкус also leans to this perspective. (Another opinion suggests it is the remnant of the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel.) This migration presumably ended after the conquest of Tmutarakans [eastern shore of the Kerch straits, overlooking the eastern end of the Crimean Peninsula; the eastern flank of the old Bosporan Kingdom] (1097) by the Polovtsy. According to Harkavy’s opinion the vernacular of these Jews at least since the ninth century was Slavic, and only in the 17th century, when the Ukrainian Jews fled from the pogroms of Chmelnitzki [Bogdan Chmelnitzki, Ukrainian Cossack, 1593-1657, led the successful Cossack rebellion against Poland with help from the Crimean Tatars], did Yiddish become the language of Jews in Poland.